

Message Text

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70

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

FEA-01 /109 W

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R 061756Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0603

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EC EFTA

SUBJECT: STATUS OF PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN EC/EFTA
RULES OF ORIGIN

REF: STATE 120525

1. EMBOFF HAS DISCUSSED PROPOSALS FOR LIBERALIZING RULES OF ORIGIN WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MORAWITZ IN ECONOMICS MINISTRY, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATION OF EC POLICY. MORAWITZ WAS ASSURED THAT EC WOULD ACT TO LIBERALIZE PRESENT RULES, BUT HE WARNED THAT PROGRESS WOULD BE SLOW. TIME WAS NEEDED NOT ONLY FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH EFTA COUNTRIES ABOUT PROPOSED CHANGES, BUT FOR BRINGING ALONG THE FRENCH.

2. TO OVERCOME FRENCH HESITANCY, LIBERALIZING CHANGES WILL BE MADE ON A STEP-BY-STEP BASIS RATHER THAN BY AN ACROSS-THE BOARD APPROACH. THE EC COMMISSION HAS RECENTLY DRAFTED A PAPER BASED LARGELY ON THE FRG AND EFTA PROPOSALS, FOR CONSIDERATION BY MEETINGS OF EC EXPERTS AND THE EC-EFTA JOINT COMMITTEE LATER IN JUNE. (COMMENT: THIS IS PROBABLY SAME PAPER AS THE ONE GABRIELSSON REFERRED TO. SEE PARA 3, USEC 3032.) EC PAPER PROPOSES THAT LIBERALIZATION EFFORTS SHOULD FIRST BE CONCENTRATED ON ITEMS IN BTN 84-85. ONCE THIS ACCOMPLISHED, WORK WOULD FOCUS ON ITEMS IN BTN 86-92.

3. MORAWITZ NOTED THAT SOME PROGRESS HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE. ON JAN. 1, 1975, THE EC BEGAN TO APPLY THE 5 RULE TO BTN 98.03. AS OF JANUARY 1, 1976, THE EC HAS AGREED TO APPLY THE SAME RULE FOR LIST B AS FOR LIST A TO BTN 85.15 AND 8514.

4. REFERRING TO THE US LIST OF 50 CASES SUBMITTED IN THE ARTICLE XXII NEGOTIATIONS, MORAWITZ SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD CERTAINLY ACT TO REMEDY A NUMBER OF THESE PROBLEMS. FOR OTHERS IT WOULD LIKE TO ASK MORE QUESTIONS BEFORE ACTING. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT THINK THE EC WOULD BE READY TO TAKE ANY ACTION ON THE 50 ITEMS UNTIL 1976.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS, RULES COMMITTEE, MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN09182
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750199-0188
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750671/aaaacmqz.tel
Line Count: 99
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 120525
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN EC/EFTA RULES OF ORIGIN
TAGS: ETRD, EC, GATT, EFTA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006